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L. Workaff
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: R. LAMANNA et al
Serial No.: 820,705
Filed: January 21, 1986
For: CREDIT CARD EMBOSsing SYSTEM
Art Unit: 337
Examiner: E. Eickholt

PRIOR ART STATEMENT PURSUANT TO 37 CFR §1.97-1.98

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

October 6, 1986

Sir:

In response to the Examiner's requirement of September 26, 1986, submitted herewith is a bound volume containing each of the patents referred to on pages 2 and 3 in the specification of the above-referenced application and general comments pertaining to the differences between the independent claims and claim 2 and the system disclosed in each of the patents. Each of the patents referred to below is identified by a parenthetical reference following the patent number which corresponds to a tab number in the exhibit book. For example, Patent No. 4,180,338 is herein-after identified as 4,180,338 (1) and appears at tab number 1 at the exhibit book.

Each of the claims commented upon hereinbelow are discussed generally by reference to subparagraphs contained therein which have subject matter which the applicants believe is not taught in the patents referred to in the specification of the present application. Nevertheless, it is requested that the Examiner specifically review each of the patents contained in the exhibit book to reach his own conclusions on the teachings of the prior art. Submitted herewith is a PTO Form 1449 which cites each of the above-referenced patents.

The fact that applicants have not commented on the dependent claims other than claim 2 is not an admission that the subject matter in the claims is not patentably distinct from the claims which have been discussed herein.

The Examiner should note that this information statement is provided as a courtesy to the Examiner. It is believed that the discussion of the limited number of claims commented upon herein and will facilitate the examination of the application.

Claim 1

(a) Patent 4,180,338 (1) does not teach subject matter of subparagraphs (b), (c) and (d). See page 2 of the specification of the application.

(b) Patent 4,378,733 (2) does not teach the subject matter of subparagraphs (b), (c) and (d). See page 3 of the specification of the application.

(c) Patent 4,519,600 (3) does not teach the subject matter of subparagraphs (b), (c) and (d). See page 3 of the specification of the application.

(d) Patent 3,820,455 (4) does not teach the subject matter of subparagraphs (b), (c) and (d). The system disclosed in the 455 patent utilizes a plurality of independent card transporting means which are separately controlled. See page 3 of the specification of the application.

(e) Patent 3,638,563 (5), 3,861,299 (6) and Re 27,809 (7) each do not teach the subject matter of subparagraphs (b), (c) and (d). The embossing system disclosed in each of these patents utilizes a plurality of independent card transporting means which are separately controlled. See pages 3 and 4 of the specification of the application.

Claim 2

None of the patents 4,180,338 (1), 4,378,733 (2), 4,519,600 (3), 3,820,455 (4), 3,638,563 (5), 3,861,299 (6) and Re 27,809 (7) disclose a control means as defined in claim 2. The embossing system disclosed in each of these patents does not utilize a common transport path which is moved to the longitudinal position of the one or more closest next characters from the current longitudinal position.

Claim 28

None of the patents 4,180,338 (1), 4,378,733 (2), 4,519,600 (3), 3,820,455 (4), 3,638,563 (5), 3,861,299 (6)

and Re 27,809 (7) discloses the subject matter of subparagraphs (a), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h) and (i).

Claim 34

None of the patents 4,180,338 (1), 4,378,733 (2), 4,519,600 (3), 3,820,455 (4), 3,638,563 (5), 3,861,299 (6) and Re 27,809 (7) disclose a topper.

Claim 46

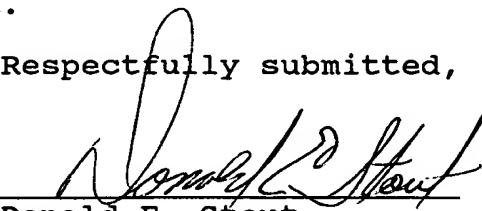
None of the patents 4,180,338 (1), 4,378,733 (2), 4,519,600 (3), 3,820,455 (4), 3,638,563 (5), 3,861,299 (6) and Re 27,809 (7) disclose the subject matter of subparagraphs (b), (c), (d), (e), (f) and (g).

Claim 57

None of the patents 4,180,338 (1), 4,378,733 (2), 4,519,600 (3), 3,820,455 (4), 3,638,563 (5), 3,861,299 (6) and Re 27,809 (7) disclose the subject matter of subparagraphs (b), (c) and (d). See the comments above regarding each of these patents with respect to claims 1 and 2.

It is respectfully submitted that any shortage in the fees be charged to the account of Antonelli, Terry & Wands, Account No. 01-2135 (800.22812X00) and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,


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ANTONELLI, TERRY & WANDS

DES:daf
Enclosures

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